P-11333.00 Patent

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<u>ABSTRACT</u>

A helical ablation electrode extends from a distal end of the shaft and includes a first portion extending from a first end winding about a first diameter, a second portion extending from the first portion and winding about a second diameter smaller than the first diameter, and a second end terminating the second portion. The electrode further includes a fluid lumen extending from a location in proximity to the first end of the electrode to a location in proximity to the second end of the electrode and in fluid communication with a fluid delivery lumen of the catheter shaft. An irrigation fluid delivered through the fluid delivery lumen of the ablation electrode to cool the electrode.